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Attorney General John Ashcroft U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcrost,

I support the settlement of the antitrust litigation against Microsoft. Continuation of this suit does not serve the best interests of consumers or the economy. I would appreciate your consideration of the following items.

I am a retired police lieutenant. As I am retired, I spend a great deal of time on the computer, and on the internet. I have used Microsoft software since the early days of DOS. Microsoft has continually produced quality, user-friendly products. As a result of Microsoft's innovations, consumers have had available to them the very best technology. Over the years, other companies, such as IBM and Linux, have produced software, which simply cannot compete with Microsoft's products. Microsoft's success has resulted in the government's needless meddling in our free market. The problem is not that Microsoft has engaged in predatory business practices. Rather, this suit was brought as a result of the failure of other companies to compete at the same level as Microsoft.

The antitrust case should not have been brought against Microsoft in the first place. I believe political factors, more than merit, played an integral role in the initial decision to file this suit. During this time of economic recession and the threat of terrorism, the government's resources should be allocated to pursuits other than needless litigation. Similarly, Microsoft's should be free to engage in what it does best - innovation of new and better products for its consumers. When this happens, the economy will surely benefit.

Thank you for considering these comments.